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J. H. FOULQUIER, S.J.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE,
DENVER, COLO.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF JAMES WILSON

SYMPATHY at the death of former Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson was sent to his family in the form of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the chiefs of the various bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture. Tribute was paid to the former head of the department for "his patriotic devotion to the interests of all the people, his broad vision, and his practical wisdom." As a token of respect the flags on all department buildings were placed at halfstaff, and remained so until after the funeral, which took place at Traer, Iowa.

Because of the time of the funeral, the department was unable to send representatives from Washington. The department, however, designated Dr. Henry C. Taylor, Chief of the Office of Farm Management, who was in the Middle West; Frank S. Pinney, Federal agricultural statistician at Des Moines; and R. E. Doolittle, Chief of the Central Food and Drug Inspection District at Chicago, to represent it at the funeral.

A floral tribute was sent by officials and employees of the department as a token of esteem for their former chief. The message of sympathy sent the family of Mr. Wilson followed a similar personal message sent by Secretary of Agriculture Meredith. The resolution of the bureau chiefs, forwarded by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ball, read:

The members of the Department of Agriculture, feeling deeply the loss of their former secretary, James Wilson, of Iowa, desire to express their sympathy with his family and their appreciation of his great services to the United States as Dean of Agriculture, member of Congress, and Secretary of Agriculture. His patriotic devotion to the interests of all the people, his broad vision, and his practical wisdom place him high among those who

have deserved well of their country. Beloved as a friend, admired and respected as an official, his example as a man and a statesman is one to which all Americans may turn for inspiration and emulation: Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of James Wilson American agriculture has lost one of its greatest exponents and American citizenship one of its finest exemplars.

In token of respect the flags on all department buildings will be placed at half-mast, and a copy of this resolution will be sent to the family.

RESEARCH IN AVIATION

AN addition has been made to the activities of the Imperial College at South Kensington in the establishment of a new department of aeronautics. The movement was initiated by Sir Basil Zaharoff's endowment of the University of London chair of aviation, to which Sir Richard Glazebrook was appointed, with the duty of directing the new department.

The London *Times* states that the department was established to give effect to the scheme proposed by the committee on education and research in aeronautics in their report, dated December 12, 1919, in which the opinion was expressed that the Imperial College should become the central school for advanced study in aeronautical science. The school is administered by an advisory committee of twelve members, with Sir Arthur Acland as chairman, representing the college, the air ministry, the aeronautical research committee, the University of Cambridge, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Society of British Aircraft Constructors.

A comprehensive scheme of instruction and training, mainly post-graduate in character, has been arranged for next session beginning in October, including special sections in aeronautical engineering, meteorology and navigation, and with the cooperation of the Air Ministry the services have been engaged of a distinguished staff of experts. Sir Napier Shaw will be professor of meteorology; Mr. Leonard Bairstow, professor of aerodynamics; Mr. A. J. Sutton Pippard will deal with the structure and strength of aircraft, and Mr. A. T. Evans with the aircraft engines. Courses of lectures